

addition to the United Hebrew Institute in 1980.

The Seligman J. Strauss Lodge of B'nai B'rith presented Mr. Davidowitz with its Community Service Award and the trustees of the Luzerne County Community College recognized his efforts as vice chairman of the building authority responsible for the construction of the Nanticoke campus.

Mrs. Davidowitz serves on the board of the Jewish Community Center. She is a past board member of Temple Israel and Wilkes University and has held leadership roles at the Northeast Ethics Institute, Luzerne County Area Agency on Aging, King's College, Ballet Northeast, College Misericordia, Wyoming Seminary, John Heinz Institute, Penn State Lehman Campus, Northeast Pennsylvania Philharmonic, United Hebrew Institute and the Wyoming Valley Jewish Campaign, which she chaired in 1990.

Mrs. Davidowitz is a member of the Klezmer Band, "Freilox and Bagels," where she has played both the harp and the flute. She has served as the non-governmental representative to the United Nations for the National Council of Jewish Women and as a local representative to the United States Holocaust Memorial Council.

Mrs. Davidowitz has received tributes from the Greater Wilkes-Barre Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith, the National Council of Jewish Women, the Jewish Federation of Greater Wilkes-Barre and the Seligman J. Strauss Lodge of B'nai B'rith.

Mr. and Mrs. Davidowitz are the parents of four sons, Jeffrey, Ivan, Steven and Benjamin. They now have nine grandchildren.

Madam Speaker, please join me in congratulating Mr. and Mrs. Davidowitz on this auspicious occasion. Their inexhaustible energy and devotion to family and community is an inspiration for all. Their volunteer service is an extraordinary example of how two people can make a huge difference in the quality of life in America.

HONORING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF UA LOCAL 370 PLUMBERS AND PIPEFITTERS

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 24, 2007

Mr. KILDEE. Madam Speaker, today I would like to take the opportunity to extend congratulations to the UA Local 370 Plumbers and Pipefitters as they commemorate their 100th anniversary. A celebration will be held on June 7 in Flint Michigan.

Local 370 was chartered on June 4, 1907 with 15 members. As a part of the United Association, Local 370 worked to change the 10-hour workday and the working conditions of its members. Over the years the benefits enjoyed by the membership have changed and grown. Base wages, initiation fees, and window dues have all changed to reflect changing economic times. The pension fund and insurance fund were created by in response to the needs of the membership.

Over the past 100 years Local 370 has been an integral part for worker rights. Chartered 30 years before the famous UAW sitdown strike in 1937, members of Local 370

built the building where the sitdown strike took place. The members have been committed to protecting prevailing wages, working for laws to mandate plumbing licenses for anyone working in the plumbing industry, working with other labor organizations to improve the day-to-day lives of workers everywhere.

Committed to the United Association motto, "We Do It Right the First Time," Local 370 has created a first-class training center for apprentices to develop their skills. The current roster of almost 500 members can earn up to 70 different certifications from United Association. The members strive to be the best trained and most up to date in their professions.

Madam Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in congratulating Local 370 for their assurance to their craft, their customers, the public and to the American worker. We have all benefited from their desire to work in a safe, conscientious environment.

CONGRESSIONAL COMMISSION ON THE ABOLITION OF MODERN-DAY SLAVERY ACT INTRODUCTION

HON. JOHN LEWIS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 24, 2007

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today with my colleagues, Representatives CHRIS SMITH, CAROLYN MALONEY, and THELMA DRAKE to introduce a very important piece of legislation, the Congressional Commission on the Abolition of Modern-Day Slavery Act. The United States abolished slavery in the 13th Amendment to the Constitution, however, slavery continues around the world and we must seek ways to end the suffering. This bill will establish a highly qualified and bipartisan commission to make recommendations on what the United States can do to eradicate slavery in all corners of the Earth.

According to the International Labor Organization, more than 12.3 million people are victims of forced labor worldwide. Free the Slaves, a non-governmental organization, estimates that upwards of 27 million people are slaves today. The U.S. Government says that there are more than 14,500 people trafficked into labor or sex exploitation in the United States each year; perhaps hundreds of thousands of Americans are also trafficked for commercial sexual exploitation right here in their own country. Each of these individuals is a modern-day slave.

Modern-day slavery takes many forms, most often different from the images found in our own history. Rather than owning their slaves outright as in years past, the 21st century slaveholders use threats, violence and psychological coercion to keep slaves in dangerous and degrading working conditions with little or no pay. In countries around the world, slaves can be found in many labor-intensive industries, including the agricultural, commercial sex, construction, garment, manufacturing and service industries, as well as in domestic service.

To develop U.S. policy to end this man-made tragedy requires a thoughtful analysis of the factors contributing to slavery, a coordinated strategy among government agencies, and the political commitment of foreign gov-

ernments to pursue an end to slavery and an end to the impunity of slave holders. The Congressional Commission on the Abolition of Modern-Day Slavery would start this effort by examining best practices to prevent modern-day slavery, examining the effectiveness of U.S. laws prohibiting the importation of goods manufactured or produced through forced labor or child labor, examine U.S. policies and relations with countries that tolerate modern-day slavery, increase education and awareness about modern-day slavery, make recommendations to Congress on actions necessary to combat and eliminate modern-day slavery in all its forms, and more.

It is time to end the exploitation of people around the world. The U.S. Congress has the responsibility to study ways the United States can end modern forms of slavery and this commission will be the first step. There is no place in our world for slavery. Let's work to end it now!

RECOGNIZING DIANNA M.N. LE

HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 24, 2007

Ms. BORDALLO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend Dianna M.N. Le, a young woman from Guam who will serve our Nation as a commissioned officer in the United States Army. She has made her parents, Phat V. Le and Lylan T. Nguyen of Mangilao, Guam, and the people of Guam immensely proud. Dianna attended Wettengel Elementary School and Santa Barbara Middle School in Dededo, and graduated from St. John's College Preparatory School in Tumon, with a performance record that earned her a nomination to the United States Military Academy (USMA) at West Point. Having successfully maintained an outstanding academic record, Dianna M.N. Le will graduate from West Point and will be commissioned as a second lieutenant on May 26, 2007. She will soon begin an important and challenging career as a soldier and leader serving our country with distinction.

Throughout her 4 years at West Point, Cadet Le was recognized for her military skill and athleticism, as well as for her academic achievement. She earned the Recondo badge for military proficiency, the Army Physical Fitness Badge, the Indoor Obstacle Course Badge, and the Master of the Sword Badge. She was elected as team captain of the nationally ranked USMA Women's Army rugby team. She was twice selected as a 2nd Team All-American for her skill as a rugby player. She twice earned recognition on the Dean's list. Additionally, a paper which she co-authored was published in Applied Optics Journal.

As a second lieutenant, Dianna will serve as a Military Police officer. Following graduation, she will attend a 6-week Basic Officer Leadership Course (BOLC) in Fort Benning, Georgia. Upon completion of training at Fort Benning, she will receive additional training at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri, after which she will report for duty with the 173rd Airborne Brigade in Bamberg, Germany.

In line with the USMA's mission to train military leaders, Dianna Le consistently upheld the Academy's principles, traditions, and values of "Duty, Honor, Country" throughout the

course of her education, and has proven that she has become a military leader, ready to take her place in the service of our Nation. The people of Guam are proud of Dianna's achievements and grateful for her service to our country. We commend her for her accomplishments and extend our best wishes to her as she begins her military career.

NO OIL PRODUCING AND EXPORTING CARTELS ACT OF 2007

SPEECH OF

HON. TODD TIAHRT

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 22, 2007

Mr. TIAHRT. I strongly oppose oil-producing and exporting cartels setting artificial limits on the production of oil. Infamous cartels, such as the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries, or OPEC, have manipulated the supply of oil and helped worldwide gasoline prices soar. This harmful collaboration to limit oil production has led to hardships for the American economy.

Unfortunately, Democratic leaders have brought a misguided bill to the House floor this week to supposedly bring an end to cartels such as OPEC. While I support the dismantling of cartels that manipulate oil production, I have serious concerns about negative consequences the United States would face if this bill were enacted.

I rise to oppose H.R. 2264 because of the impact it would have on our national security, trade security and energy security.

If the United States should bring an antitrust lawsuit against an OPEC member country, restrictions could be placed on our ability to station and activate troops in the Middle East. We rely on cooperation from countries that are members of cartels for assistance in the global war on terror. We should carefully consider what retaliatory actions or restrictions these countries could place on the United States if we were to pursue actions authorized in H.R. 2264.

These foreign governments could also levy trade sanctions against American products and businesses or choose to employ another oil embargo like the one that occurred in 1973. By cutting off oil supplies, they could cause gasoline price increases for American consumers. Americans do not want higher gas prices, which is the direction H.R. 2264 could take us.

The Democratic leadership should have waited until the Government Accountability Office is able to study the likelihood of retaliatory actions against the United States and any negative impact those actions would yield if H.R. 2264 became law. American security is not something we should treat glibly.

I urge my colleagues to vote against H.R. 2264. The uncertain impact this bill could have on America's national security, energy security and economic security is not worth risking for hasty passage of a bill that will yield no short-term benefits for the American people.

OPPOSITION TO SENATE IMMIGRATION BILL

HON. JERRY MORAN

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 24, 2007

Mr. MORAN of Kansas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to speak in opposition to the irresponsible immigration bill being considered in the Senate. As I travel around the big first congressional district in Kansas, the number one issue Kansans want to talk about is immigration. Across my home State and across the Nation, illegal immigration affects all aspects of life in our communities. Schools must deal with educating growing numbers of students who speak little or no English. Hospital emergency rooms grow even more crowded. Law enforcement work overtime to keep neighborhoods safe.

While our immigration process is broken and needs dramatic overhaul, the legislation currently being debated in the Senate is not the answer. The Senate proposal is public policy at its worst. I oppose the Senate legislation. As I have said since this debate began, the first priority must be to restore the integrity of our borders. Without secure borders, the laws dealing with citizenship and worker permits are irrelevant.

In addition to protecting the border, we also need a fair and efficient immigration agency that encourages compliance with our laws so that those who wish to come to the United States legally are able to do so in a timely and appropriate manner.

I am more than willing to work with my colleagues to craft legislation that truly will address this country's immigration issue, but the compromise legislation pending in the Senate only exacerbates the problem.

HONORING EDWARD LEWIS

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 24, 2007

Ms. LEE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the extraordinary life and career of Ed Lewis. Today Ed is being honored by the Greater New Haven, Connecticut Chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) for his many decades of leadership in the fight for civil rights, equality and social justice in our country.

Ed is currently the Vice President of Franchise Relations for the Charlotte Bobcats in the National Basketball Association (NBA). In that role he develops relationships with state and local governments on behalf of that organization, and also ensures diversity in the Bobcats' business partnerships.

Ed brings a wealth of professional experience to his current position, having served as a leader in the cable television industry for many years. Before joining the Bobcats' organization, he was the Vice President of Corporate Affairs for BET (Black Entertainment Television) on Jazz: The Jazz Channel. Ed also served with distinction at Telecommunications, Inc. (TCI); District Cablevision, Inc.; and District Cable Advertising. His service with BET networks goes back to 1993, when he

served in roles related to network operations, consumer affairs and marketing. Ed received his B.A. from Howard University, and his M.A. from Occidental College. He was a National Urban Fellow, Ford Foundation Fellow and Associate Administrator for procurement for the U.S. Small Business Administration.

Throughout his career, Ed has been active in professional and community groups, and maintains various leadership roles within those organizations. He is on the Board of Directors at Theater Charlotte; WTVI Public Television; and the Bobby Phills Foundation. Ed serves on the advisory boards of the Mint Museum as well as the Mint Museum of Craft and Design. Furthermore, he is a member of the Charlotte Rotary, as well as 100 Black Men of Charlotte.

I have known Ed for many years and I salute his unwavering commitment to young people. He is an inspirational role model to young African American boys and teenagers, and for that, I am deeply grateful.

Ed's dedication to creating a more just and equitable society has had a positive impact on countless lives within and beyond the African American community. On this very special day, I join the friends, family and colleagues of Ed Lewis in thanking and saluting him for his profound contributions to his community, our country and our world.

A TRIBUTE TO SAN MATEO COUNTY JOBS FOR YOUTH

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 24, 2007

Mr. LANTOS. Madam Speaker, I proudly rise today to recognize a remarkable program for young people in my home district in California, the San Mateo County Jobs for Youth program will celebrate a quarter century of success on May 31, 2007.

This nonprofit program, founded and facilitated by my good friend Al Teglia, serves youth ages 14 to 21 regardless of background, socio-economic status, or risk level, at no cost to them or to employers. Youth learn to master job applications, prepare for interviews and create resumes; they then receive job or internship leads to help further their ambitions. Last year, nearly 2,000 young people were served in its five offices located throughout San Mateo County.

Madam Speaker, when so many bemoan the lack of effective programs to address the importance of giving young people a step up the ladder of employment, the Jobs for Youth program facilitates wonderful opportunities through its job development and referral program for youth.

The celebration scheduled for May 31 will focus on several specific examples of success. Gilead Sciences in Foster City will be honored at the event with a special business recognition, and Daly City will be presented the fourth annual Mary Louise Paskevich Award in memory of her 20-year Jobs for Youth participation. Both entities actively support the program by hiring program graduates and helping youth around the county. Bill Somerville of Philanthropic Ventures Foundation will also be acknowledged. He donated the "seed money" to Al Teglia to start up Jobs for Youth, which was initially called Summer